

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A method and apparatus for providing welding type  
power is disclosed. The power source is capable of  
receiving any input voltage over a wide range of input  
10 voltages and includes an input rectifier that rectifies the  
ac input into a dc signal. A dc voltage stage converts the  
dc signal to a desired dc voltage and an inverter inverts  
the dc signal into a second ac signal. An output  
transformer receives the second ac signal and provides a  
15 third ac signal that has a current magnitude suitable for  
welding, cutting or induction heating. The welding type  
current may be rectified and smoothed by an output inductor  
and an output rectifier. A controller provides control  
signals to the inverter and a controller power supply can  
also receive a range of input voltages and provide a control  
power signal to the controller, and a voltage independent of  
the input voltage.